

## **MAY 2004 IRP E-NEWS**

*Brought to You by the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP)*

*The IRP mission is to join diverse public and private resources in innovative collaborations to strengthen communities and improve life in rural Idaho.*

**Upcoming IRP Meetings** - IRP has a series of upcoming activities and welcomes your involvement in all of them. Please mark your calendar for the following events:

May 12 – 13 Salmon Community Review, Offered in cooperation with the community of Salmon, Association of Idaho Cities and many other partners.

May 19 - 20 IRP Board of Directors Meeting, Ashley Inn, Cascade

June 22 IRP Economic Development Committee Meeting, 10 am – Noon

July 27 IRP Environment Committee Meeting, 9 am – Noon

August 4 IRP Board of Directors Meeting, Magic Valley, All day

September 8 – 9 Rexburg Community Review

For more information about any of these activities, to volunteer for a committee or to sign up for the IRP newsletter go to [www.irp.idaho.gov](http://www.irp.idaho.gov).

**State Grants Announced** - Governor Kempthorne has announced funding of two projects that will show an immediate impact on local communities through the creation of jobs. The two projects funding through the Rural Idaho Initiative are in Heyburn and Bonneville county. An additional 22 projects were approved and will use Community Development Block Grant funds. These grants represent nearly \$7 million in water/sewer, downtown redevelopment and senior center projects. Each project was reviewed and recommended for funding by the Idaho Economic Advisory Council at their quarterly meeting, held April 22-23 in Boise. Council representatives are appointed by Governor Kempthorne and serve as a six-member, private sector advisory board to the Idaho Department of Commerce. A complete list of the approved grants is available at <http://www.idoc.state.id.us/news/index.html> under 'news releases'.

**Governor's Business Opportunity Conference** - Idaho companies with products and services to sell to large corporations and government agencies are invited to attend the annual Governor's Business Opportunity Conference in Idaho Falls, **Thursday, May 13, 2004**. Purchasing agents from more than 50 Northwest corporations and government agencies will meet one-on-one meetings with businesses to discuss how Idaho products and services match up with agency needs. BNFL Chief Operating Officer John Christian of Arlington, Virginia, will deliver the luncheon keynote address. BNFL is an international nuclear energy business, offering world-class technology and expertise to nuclear utilities and governments. Several seminars will feature topics ranging from advertising strategies for small business to a homeland security update and how to bid on government-funded international projects. The conference will be held in Idaho Falls at the Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Boulevard, from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Registration is \$30 per person - \$40 after May 6 - and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Participants can register online at [www.idahoworks.com/ibn](http://www.idahoworks.com/ibn) or contact the Idaho Department of Commerce at 208-334-2470 for details.

**2004 Community Development Institute** - The Idaho Department of Commerce and Association of Idaho Cities have announced the 2004 Northwest Community Development Institute will be held on July 18 – 23 at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel in Boise. The Institute is a three-year certification program that provides community and economic development practitioners with a formal training ground designed to address complex issues and increase effectiveness of existing and potential leaders. For registration information go to

[www.idahocities.org](http://www.idahocities.org) or call Mindy Hobson at 800-344-8594. For curriculum or scholarship information go to [www.idoc.state.id.us](http://www.idoc.state.id.us) or call Gloria Mabbutt at 334-2470.

**Compassion Capital Funds Available** - The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families recently announced that approximately \$7 million will be made available to intermediary organizations that help grassroots faith-based and community organizations increase their capacity to assist people in need. The resources will come from the Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) program, a \$47 million Presidential initiative aimed at helping these organizations improve their effectiveness, enhance their ability to provide social services, diversify their funding sources, and emulate model social service programs. Grants will be made to intermediary organizations that serve as a bridge between the Federal Government and faith-based and community organizations. Intermediary organizations will provide technical assistance and capacity-building sub-awards to grassroots faith-based and community groups. Private, non-profit organizations including faith and community-based organizations, and state, local, and tribal governments are eligible to apply for these grants. Applications for these grants are due by **May 18, 2004**. The Compassion Capital Fund website is available at: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/> Information on how to apply and whom to contact can be found at: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2004-EJ-0002.html>.

**Entrepreneurial Effect Conference** - Want to see a more entrepreneurial Idaho? Want to see how this fits perfectly with business recruitment? Want an inside look at how to actually do that? Want to sit in on some cutting-edge training in how to grow an entrepreneurial economy? The Entrepreneurial Effect is coming to Boise on **May 20-21**. This was developed by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and is the latest iteration of the training that was piloted at the National Governors Association Public Policy Academy. For more information, contact Dr. Norris Krueger, TEAMS program manager and clinical professor of entrepreneurship at (208) 426-3573 or [nkrueger@boisestate.edu](mailto:nkrueger@boisestate.edu).

**Brownfield's Conference in Boise** - The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation is sponsoring a Brownfield's Conference on **June 17<sup>th</sup>** in Boise. The conference will be all day at the Owyhee Plaza hotel. Brownfields are abandoned, idled or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Both petroleum and hazardous waste (non-petroleum) properties are eligible for assessment. A \$10 pre-registration is requested prior to June 4th. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Kelly Novak, NADO, at 202/624-7809 or [knovak@nado.org](mailto:knovak@nado.org).

**Water Funding Available** - Grant applications are now available for projects that will address long-term water supply problems in the Thousand Springs area of the Snake River. Eligible applicants are limited to Thousand Springs water users whose spring water supplies or spring-fed streams are adversely impacted by a decline in water supply. The grant program is one element of the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer Mitigation, Recovery and Restoration Agreement. The Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor will administer the grant program. Applications must meet a number of specific criteria and be postmarked by May 31. Grant applications, review procedures, contract information and other details are available on the Internet at: [www.idwr.state.id.us/Committee](http://www.idwr.state.id.us/Committee). For more information, contact Jay Engstrom, Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor, (208) 334-2470 or [jengstrom@idoc.state.id.us](mailto:jengstrom@idoc.state.id.us).

**Ag Trade Report Available** – The March 2004 edition of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Idaho Agriculture Trade Issues Report identifies current trade issues impacting Idaho food and agriculture products. Our goal at the department is to further improve the communications with federal agencies on Idaho's trade policy issues and to actively address trade issues on a consistent basis. This document and other trade related documents can be found at the ISDA website <http://www.agri.idaho.gov/marketing/publicat.htm>. Contact Mary Symms-Pollot, ISDA, at [msymms@agri.state.id.us](mailto:msymms@agri.state.id.us) or (208) 332-8538.

**Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)**- RTCA is accepting applications for the upcoming federal fiscal year beginning October 1. RTCA is an extension service of the National Park Service and works alongside communities to assist them on their locally-led recreation and conservation projects. While most grant programs provide funding for implementation, RTCA provides technical assistance to help communities, local governments and non-profits develop plans for their projects. For many projects, it is getting the ideas down and flushed out in a plan that has the buy-in of the general community that is the most difficult step and we can help. If you know of any communities or groups that might be interested, please go to the following website [www.nps.gov/ccso/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/ccso/rtca) or call Dan Miller at 206-220-4122 for details.

**Annual Rural Development Conference** - The 2004 National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP) Annual Leadership Conference will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, August 30-September 2, 2004. This conference will seek to build on the momentum of the NRDP Policy Consultation held this spring in Washington, DC, and will include leadership and representatives of national and Federal partners, as well as the State Rural Development Councils. Oklahoma Rural Development Council, OCD, the NRDP Executive Board, Partners for Rural America and others are working together in the planning process. If you would like to volunteer on one of the planning sub-committees please contact Sharon Colbert at [scolbert@ocdx.usda.gov](mailto:scolbert@ocdx.usda.gov). If you would like to be added to the Conference mailing list, please email Bridzette Lane at [blane@ocdx.usda](mailto:blane@ocdx.usda). Please include in the subject line "NRDP Conference Mailing List" and your telephone and fax numbers, as well as your email and mailing addresses in the body of the message.

**Rural ED Funding** - The USDA Rural Business-Cooperative Service invites applications for FY 2004 funding under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program. This program provides grants and loans to Rural Utilities Service electric and telephone utilities to assist in developing rural areas from an economic standpoint. Approximately \$10 million is expected to be available for grants of up to \$300,000. Approximately \$14.9 million is expected to be available for zero-interest loans of up to \$450,000. Entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Idaho USDA Rural Development State Office at 9173 West Barnes Dr., Suite A1, Boise, ID 83709 or 208/378-5600.

**SBIR Program Details** - The Small Business Administration Office of Technology has released the 2004 solicitation for the **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Rural Outreach Program**. This grant program provides funds to eligible states for the creation or continuation of programs designed to market SBIR programs to small technology firms. Closing date is **May 12, 2004**. More information is available at [http://www.sba.gov/sbir/FY\\_2004ROPA.pdf](http://www.sba.gov/sbir/FY_2004ROPA.pdf).

**Rural Poverty Fellows Program** - The Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI) Rural Poverty Research Center is seeking undergraduates interested in rural poverty and policy for a unique

leadership program. Students selected as Undergraduate Rural Poverty Fellows will be expected to complete an individual research project focused on rural poverty during the 2004-2005 school year and present a report on their project at a convening of the Fellows in 2005. For more information, go to <http://www.rupri.org/rprc/ugflyer2004.pdf>.

**2004 Save America's Treasures** - The large grants are available for historic preservation projects and are administered by the National Park Service in partnership with a number of other entities. The Save America's Treasures Grants Selection Panel may, at its discretion, award less than the minimum grant request. In 2003, the average Federal grant award to collections was \$172,000, and the average award to historic properties was \$268,000. Sixty-three projects were funded from among the 450 applications received. Eligible projects include preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and nationally significant historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects. Applications must be received by 5 pm Eastern Daylight Savings time, Wednesday, **May 19**, 2004 and should NOT be submitted through the US Postal Service. Applicants can address questions to Save America's Treasures Heritage Preservation Services, National Park Service at 1201 "Eye" Street, NW, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor (ORG. 2255), Washington, D.C. 20005 or 202/513-7270, ext. 6. For general information contact the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities at 202/682-5409 or [www.pcah.gov](http://www.pcah.gov).

**Community Support from the Gannett Foundation** - The Gannett Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations that serve the communities in more than forty states (including Idaho) where Gannett Co., Inc., owns a local daily newspaper or TV station. In Idaho, cash grants are awarded three times annually to qualified non-profit organizations through the Gannett Foundation. A committee of employees review requests and recommend contributions to organizations that improve the education, health and advancement of people in their distribution area. Deadlines for applications are **May 15 and August 15**. Gannett Foundation requests are reviewed based on several criteria and the completion of an application that are both available on line at <http://www.idahostatesman.com/CustSvc/community-programs.asp>. For more information regarding Gannett Foundation, please contact Heather Harradine, Assistant to the Publisher, The Idaho Statesman, at (208) 377-6300.